



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Sanctuary System
Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary
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4th SANCTUARY ADVISORY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING
The Radisson Hotel, Rockland, MA
9 September 2002

PRESENT

William Adler		
William Amaru		
Regina Asmutis-Silvia	(Alternate to Susan Farady))	
Peter Auster		
Peter Borelli		
Pricilla Brooks		
Gib Chase	(Alternate to Pricilla Brooks)	
Kevin Chu		
Peter Davidoff	(Alternate to Jackson Kent, III)	
Kathleen Dolan	(Designee for Richard Murray)	(Ex-Officio Member)
William Eldridge	(Alternate to Frederick Noland, III)	
Susan Farady		
Michael Hennessey	(Designee for Rear Adm. G. N. Naccara)	(Ex-Officio Member)
Jerry Hill		
Porter Hoagland	(Alternate to Mason Weinrich)	
Donald Hourihan	(Alternate to John Williamson)	
Paul Howard		(Ex-Officio Member)
Roger Jarvis	(Alternate to Barry Gibson)	
Jackson Kent, III	(Designee for Patricia Turkil)	(Ex-Officio Member)
Robert MacKinnon	(Alternate to William Amaru)	
David Pierce	(Designee for Paul Diodati)	(Ex-Officio Member)
Frederick Nolan, III		
Rob Robertson	(Alternate to Sally Yozell)	
Kathi Rodriguez	(Designee for Patricia Turkil)	(Ex-Officio Member)
Mason Weinrich		
John Williamson		
Sally Yozell		



SBNMS STAFF

Craig MacDonald, Superintendent
Ben Haskell
Anne Smrcina
Nathalie Ward

Sandi Dentino
James Lindholm
Kate Van Dine

I. Welcome and Approval of Minutes (Bill Amaru)

II. Sanctuaries Staff Activity Report (Craig MacDonald)

A. SAC coordinator introduced, Nathalie Ward, who will start 1 December 2002.

B. Program of Submerged Cultural Resources identified and discussed: the definition of “wrecks,” budget potential conflicts such as habitat disturbance, fishing efforts and marine mammal entanglement, and partnership with University of Connecticut. Additional concerns discussed: releasing coordinates of site or “marking site”; questioning legal issues involved with wrecks; and the special use permit for fiber optics communication cable including budget and its possible impacts.

C. Building Renovations were divided into: Phase I: bulk of building renovations on building and garage; ar Phase II: roof repairs (half a million dollars needed from Congress).

III. Council Logistics

A. Meeting Dates and Locations: proposed that regular meeting dates be set for next six months to attend 1) Sanctuary business and, 2) management plan review meetings.

Suggestions included: varying location of meetings, and providing regular agenda items or reports. Noted that Scoping Meeting comment period ends October 18; by early November, Kate Van Dine will email Scoping Meeting comments to SAC; by January, SAC working groups will be established. Van Dine will query SAC members and they will email votes for future meeting dates.

B. Agenda Topics proposed for all future meetings included reports on resources, budget, management, activities of other agencies, research and outreach education Program status can be illustrated by slide show and newsletter.

IV. How SAC can assist SBNMS?

A. Accessing Constituents: emphasis on what does Sanctuary Superintendent need SAC to accomplish, instead of focusing on individual agendas.

Concerns:

- Encouraged SAC members to advertise visibility of Sanctuary
- May be issues outside of Management Plan for agenda consideration
- All question, Who is constituency—national or international?
- Questions the role of Sanctuary education

B. Friend's Group: MacDonald summarized the importance of non-profit organizations to help supplement Sanctuary budget and described the benefits of the National Marine Sanctuaries Foundation,

C. SBNM Sanctuary Budget: \$ 1.3 million base budget in 2002 and predicted for 2003. Budget consists of two categories. The *fixed category* (70%) includes utilities and maintenance costs, staff (5), contracts (5) and NMFS/OLE (1) employees. Long-term monitoring projects include a) SHRIMP, b) water quality monitoring, and c) whale distribution studies.

WORKING LUNCHEON: Portland Presentation (Ben Haskell)

Status of summer Submerged Cultural Resources (SCR) investigation and merging SCR management needs reported by Haskell.

V. MPR and Scoping Update

A. State of Sanctuary Report (SOS) and Presentation (Craig MacDonald)

MacDonald described the upcoming Scoping Meeting process, the intent of the “round table” discussions, and outlined the purpose of Working Groups—specifically, to generate action plans including giving background information concerning the issue, identifying the stakeholders, clarifying the information needed to make decisions and set priorities.

B. Advisory Council Comments: commended MacDonald’s presentation (for upcoming Scoping Meetings) and made specific comments for improvement.

- In general, it was an “excellent presentation in process” but needs to give more of an overview of specific knowledge/uses within Sanctuary— to show the balance or “compatibility” between economic uses and biological resources.
- Emphasis must be placed on encouraging the audience to articulate their “vision” of “What should a sanctuary be?” The presentation needs clarity graphically and to provide answers to the following questions: What is a Sanctuary? Why should the public be interested in SBNMS? What are the interactions with other agencies?
- It was suggested that the five management review items be highlighted in the public scoping presentation to familiarize the public with seminal concerns or issues.
- Cautioned usage of “catch-all” phrases such as “ecosystem management;” limit jargon and provide the public with specific examples that they can relate to.

VI. Open Discussion/Public Comment

A. Center for Coastal Studies (CCS) offered donation of boat to SBNMS

B. Concerns by some members included:

- the SAC needs to “goal set” and commence working
- how best to support “visibility” for the Portland and to encourage other agencies to work in the decision-making to “reveal” the site
- SAC/Sanctuary should investigate mining NOMES project, bleached pellets coming out of MWRA Outfall Pipe.

C. Next SAC meeting should include:

- Report and summary of the Scoping Process
- Identify specific issues high on prioritization scheme
- Organize Working Groups
- Flesh out remaining issues for January meeting

VIII. Adjourn